

Reasons For Allowance

1. The following is an examiners statement of reasons for allowance: the present claims are allowable over the "closest" prior art Hori et al. (JP 2003-292713) and Yamamoto (JP 2002-326303) for the following reasons.
2. Hori et al. disclose a gas barrier laminate comprising a base layer and the laminate layer comprising a polyacrylic acid to which a hydroxyl group has been bonded and the carboxyl group has been neutralized by at least a divalent metal atom. However Hori et al. teach that the neutralization only occurs from 2-30%, in fact Hori et al. teach away from going over 30% (paragraph 0013) which is in direct contradiction to the requirements in instant claims 1 and 24.
3. Yamamoto teaches gas barrier films comprising a base layer and a gas barrier layer comprising the components of the instant invention however they fail to teach the required neutralization as required by the instant claims.
4. Thus it is clear that Hori et al. and Yamamoto alone or in combination do not disclose the present invention.
5. Further the arguments submitted on 03/03/10 overcome the double patenting rejections of record.

In light of the above the present claims are passed to issue.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ERIK KASHNIKOW whose telephone number is (571)270-3475. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-5:00PM EST (Second Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on (571) 272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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